

Pleasanton Weekly

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PPIE's 10th annual fundraiser back at fairgrounds later this month

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AROUND THE VALLEY



BY GINA CHANNELL WILCOX

A privilege to know him

Jerry Thorne lived most of his life in Northern California but he never lost the folksy, gentlemanly ways of the South where he was raised.

Thorne, a former Pleasanton councilman and four-term mayor during the 2010s, died unexpectedly at his Arizona home Sunday at the age of 77.

He moved from Tennessee to Pleasanton in his 20s, after graduating from the University of Tennessee at Memphis with a degree in chemical engineering.

Even with decades on the West Coast, Jerry never lost his Southern manners (or the drawl), which served him well as he led Pleasanton during a particularly turbulent time of growth. Many meetings were heated and long in a city where the residents wanted a housing cap that the state said they couldn't have.

"Thorne was savvy, gregarious and affable, whether on Main Street or at meetings," said Pleasanton Weekly Founding Editor Jeb Bing, who spent many nights in City Council Chambers covering meetings. "He was a conciliator whether dealing with anti-war protesters at City Council meetings or handling backyard over-the-fence disputes."

When I think of "Mayor Thorne," I remember the respect he showed everyone — our staff, residents, commenters during public meetings and his fellow council members among the many.

He could be the most patient person, but he could take or retake control of a meeting when needed — in a calm, considerate manner, of course. He explained his decisions in a logical manner and invited alternative views. He was not afraid to discuss and debate ideas, which is something being lost in the political arena today.

"Jerry was more action than words, which made him a rarer breed because he wasn't a typical glad-handing politician," said Kathy Narum, who served with Thorne on the Pleasanton City Council and as his campaign manager before that.

"He was more focused on getting things done for the community that he loved so much, and he could be tenacious about it. This is why people loved him," Kathy said. "But as his campaign manager, it was a challenge when it came to the campaigning part and knocking on doors. He had an innate modesty that made knocking on doors and

idle chit-chat difficult for him, but he came to appreciate that residents really did want to talk to him."

This humility is a characteristic that goes along with the Southern manners Jerry exuded.

When I think of Jerry the person and friend, I remember how he would go out of his way to make everyone he encountered feel valued and heard. I also think of his firm handshake and fierce love for his community and country, its residents and his family — traits also part and parcel with the ways of the South.

"I remember one time we were out walking and knocking on doors, and one of the doors was opened by Terry Beaty," Kathy said. "They got to talking and Terry yells over his shoulder to his wife Kim that Jerry Thorne was at the door and he brings Jerry inside. I wasn't sure what to do. After about 15 minutes, Jerry came out absolutely beaming."

It turns out Jerry had welcomed home their son at a homecoming hosted by Pleasanton Military Families, of which Jerry was a huge supporter, and they hadn't forgotten.

"Those were the moments that Jerry lived for," Kathy continued. "He was so pleased that he'd made a difference in the life of a soldier and his family. That was my friend Jerry, who dedicated the last 25 years of his life to improving the lives of others."

"Jerry Thorne was like the neighbor you wish you had, the neighbor who helped whenever he saw a need," Jeb said. "The neighbor who greeted you like he was genuinely happy to see you. The person you could effortlessly spend a day with. I always felt welcome, both in his home and at community events."

"Thorne resolved issues, developing close ties with neighboring cities, the county and even federal legislators," Jeb said. "It was a privilege to know Jerry and he will surely be missed."

Jerry leaves good memories and life lessons for his friends and family; Mayor Thorne leaves the city and region stronger.

It was indeed a privilege to know Jerry Thorne, and he will be missed. ■

Editor's note: Gina Channell Wilcox has been the president and publisher of Embarcadero Media's East Bay Division since October 2006. Her "Around the Valley" column runs the first and third Fridays of the month.

About the Cover

PPIE's Run for Education returns as a full in-person event later this month, with the fundraiser also marking its 10th anniversary. Photo of 2018 run by Chuck Deckert. Cover design by Paul Llewellyn.

Vol. XXIII, Number 10

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What was the last act of kindness you either performed or received?



Shyamalima Karan
Artist

Well, I'm currently in the process of making 25 hand-crafted thank-you cards for veterans who are traveling to Washington, D.C. for their "Honor Flight". The cards are part of a surprise "mail call" during the ceremonial tour, similar to "mail calls" when they were stationed across the world.



Darnia Chang
Security

I took two of my nephews on a hike up to the overlook at Lake Del Valle. Their mom, my sister, has not been feeling well lately, so taking the boys for the afternoon allowed her a bit of restful peace and quiet. And the boys really enjoyed our time together exploring the great outdoors.



Umberto Baez
Retired

That's easy. A friend of mine receives Meals on Wheels because he is essentially homebound. On a recent visit, he gave me all of the low-sodium V8s that come with his meals. He doesn't like V8 but knows that I do. So he collects them for me. I think of him fondly every time I pop one open.



Helen Davis
Legal assistant

After my husband Bill's recent passing, a very kind and compassionate social worker counseled me through the whole ordeal. He did so without compensation because he wanted to be sure I was being comforted through the holidays and even thereafter.



Donald Bryant
Store manager

Oh wow. Just the other day one of my customers brought me and the rest of the staff a whole bunch of fresh lemons from the tree in his yard. It was so unexpected, and so appreciated by all of us. We were so touched to know he was thinking about us and took time to pick and deliver us lemons.

—Compiled by Nancy and Jeff Lewis

Have a Streetwise question? Email editor@PleasantonWeekly.com

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PLEASANTON WEEKLY

Editorial Comment "Steinle case: A complete miscarriage of justice" by Jeremy Walsh

Editorial Comment "The time for the first community debate on policing in Pleasanton is now" by Jeremy Walsh

Feature Story "On the road again" by Dolores Fox Ciardelli

Profile Story "Gretchen's legacy" by Ryan J. Degan



Awards presented by the California News Publishers Association for work published in 2020.

PLEASANTON WEEKLY ONLINE

General Excellence by PleasantonWeekly.com Staff

Public Service Journalism 2020 Tri-Valley candidate forum series by PleasantonWeekly.com Staff

Local Government Coverage "Policing in Pleasanton" series by Julia Baum and Jeremy Walsh

Youth & Education Coverage "Danville student settles free-speech lawsuit against SRVUSD, will receive \$665,000 and public apology" by Ryan J. Degan

Youth & Education Coverage "Another abrupt superintendent departure for Dublin Unified" by Jeremy Walsh, Riya Chopra and Cierra Bailey

Photo Coverage of Protest & Racial Justice "Moment of silence (8:46) during Pleasanton march" by Ryan J. Degan

Breaking News "Pleasanton PD officers cleared of criminal charges for man's death after confrontation outside Raley's" by Jeremy Walsh

News Photo "Dining out in Pleasanton" by Ryan J. Degan

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DIGEST

Design library card

The Pleasanton Public Library has launched a contest for residents to design the city's new library card with their own original artwork.

"Pleasanton residents of all ages—from children and teens to adults and seniors—are encouraged to submit artwork focusing on the library's mission statement: 'Start Your Journey Here: Discover, Connect, Share,'" library officials said.

The contest is open from Monday through 5 p.m. May 15. The city's Library Commission will select the winner, who will have their artwork printed on all new library cards in Pleasanton.

Second booster OK'd

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has authorized a second booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for people ages 50 and older and some immunocompromised individuals, the agency announced Tuesday.

The new authorization will make a second booster dose available to those at higher risk for severe disease, hospitalization and death, including those who have undergone solid organ transplantation or with certain immunocompromised conditions.

The second booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine may be administered to people ages 12 and older with certain immunocompromised conditions at least four months after they have received a first booster dose of any COVID-19 vaccine.

The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine can be offered as a second booster dose at least four months after the first booster dose of any authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccine to people 18 years and older who are immunocompromised.

—Sue Dremann, *Palo Alto Weekly*

Holi Festival

The Holi Festival at City Center Bishop Ranch in San Ramon, the largest celebration of the holiday throughout the Bay Area, is coming back in person next Friday (April 8) with the traditional throwing of colors, live music, food and family activities.

"Holi, an ancient Hindu festival signifying the arrival of spring, is a colorful celebration centered around dousing vibrant powdered pigments while donning light-colored clothing to welcome the season in a radiant expression of togetherness," City Center officials said.

The event in Alexander Square is free to attend and runs from 5:30-8 p.m. This marks the return of San Ramon's Holi Festival for the first time since 2019 because of the pandemic. The venue anticipates having room for up to 2,000 people to attend. ■

Pleasanton council votes to initiate Stage 2 drought water rates

Extra charge to start May 1; city maintains 15% mandatory conservation order

BY JEREMY WALSH
Water rates are set to go up in Pleasanton effective next month after the City Council voted to activate new drought rates for all city water customers amid the ongoing supply shortage locally and statewide.

The Stage 2 drought rates, which will add an extra charge across the board based on usage, including 65 cents per unit of water for single-family residential customers, aim to incentivize conservation amid the drought while

also serving to help shore up the city's struggling water utility fund that is down more than \$3 million in revenue this fiscal year, city officials said.

"Where we are now, I just don't think we really have a lot of choice," Councilmember Kathy Narum said toward the end of the discussion at the March 15 council meeting. "I don't like it. I wish it would rain ... I think this is one of those things where, you know, begrudgingly I'm going to support it."

"We do absolutely have to keep

ourselves financially healthy," Mayor Karla Brown added. "The rates, in the example from staff, show ... you reduce 15% and in this tough time your bill is virtually the same. We understand people are on a budget, and so is the city. And we've got PFAS and we've got a lot of water projects coming up."

"We're in a drought. Everybody's going to use less water. We're going to turn the faucet off more. We're going to water less. We're going to take shorter showers. And 15% is reasonable to

achieve," Brown said. "Let's hope we get some rain because the next phase is going to be much more painful."

The vote to enact Stage 2 drought rates was 4-1, with Councilmember Julie Testa in dissent.

"It seems really unreasonable to say conserve and we're going to penalize you and charge you more—and we're going to be looking at these other future increases," Testa said, referring to the results of the city's water and sewer rate

See **DROUGHT** on Page 6



FILE PHOTO BY MIKE SEDLAK

Jerry Thorne, who served 15-plus years as a Pleasanton City Council member and mayor, died unexpectedly of apparent natural causes on Sunday.

Remembering Jerry Thorne

Leading voice on council during decade of growth, change for Pleasanton

BY JEREMY WALSH

Jerry Thorne, the former councilman and four-term mayor who served as a leading voice for the city government amid Pleasanton's growth and evolution during the 2010s, died unexpectedly at his home in Arizona on Sunday. He was 77.

A Tennessee native who relocated to Pleasanton during his long corporate career, Thorne first made his mark on city politics as a volunteer with the Pleasanton Seahawks advocating for swimming facilities

and later joined the Pleasanton Parks and Recreation Commission before serving more than seven years as a regular City Council member and then another eight years as mayor.

Thorne and his wife had moved from Pleasanton to the Grand Canyon State last summer looking for a change of pace and scenery after Thorne's post-retirement career in civic governance wound down upon being termed out of the mayor's seat in November 2020.

"Mayor Thorne was a good and decent man, who was a

committed husband, father, grandfather, friend, and public servant. He loved Pleasanton and led this community for nearly two decades as an elected official with honor and grace," former city manager Nelson Fialho told the Weekly on Monday.

"He was committed to the improvement of Pleasanton by advocating for several community projects, including the city's Callippe Golf Course, Bernal Community Park and

See **THORNE** on Page 10

Trustees approve election boundaries

PUSD districting map to take effect with November ballot

BY SHIRI MARWAHA

The Pleasanton school board met in person last week and voted to advance the boundary map dubbed "Scenario 4" for the district's conversion to trustee area-based elections.

With Pleasanton Unified School District moving away from at-large elections this November, the boundary map divides the community into five trustee areas with populations as close as possible, among other criteria, including school attendance area representation. A candidate can only run for school board in the trustee area they reside in.

The board adopted the resolution in October last year indicating its intent to switch to by-trustee-area elections, and after four public meetings and one additional meeting, in addition to public input, the choices were narrowed down from five to two—"Scenario 4" and "Scenario 5"—for final consideration at the March 24 board meeting.

The primary differences between the maps, geographically, could be seen in the northeast and southwest corners, as well as the central part of town.

Just before the voting last week,

See **PUSD** on Page 8

Tri-Valley Haven's new food pantry welcomes families in need

Nonprofit offers grocery store-like experience at larger facility

By CIERRA BAILEY

Tri-Valley Haven's new food pantry in Livermore is officially open and serving individuals and families from Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

While the pantry opened to the public initially on Feb. 22, the organization hosted a special grand opening event on March 17, which was attended by several local officials including Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert, Livermore Vice Mayor Gina Bonanno and Dublin Mayor Melissa Hernandez.

According to Tri-Valley Haven associate director Christine Dillman, there were about 50 people in total at the grand opening which included a behind the scenes view of the space and a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The organization was also presented with a congratulatory certificate from the city of Livermore and a certificate of commendation from Haubert during the event.

Along with moving to a new space, Tri-Valley Haven is also offering food pantry guests a new experience.

The pantry — located at 150 North L St. — is utilizing a “client choice” model, which aims to empower food pantry clients to pick food that is appropriate for their family's dietary needs, according to a statement from Tri-Valley Haven.

“We wanted people to come in and feel like it's like a grocery store or a farmers' market and pick what they need for their families,” Dillman told Livermore Vine, adding that the model makes for an even more dignified experience. She also said this method cuts down on food waste because clients are choosing their own food instead of being given items they may not be able to eat due to their dietary restrictions.

In addition to groceries, the pantry

also offers baby products, hygiene supplies and household items, among other products.

Every month, the Haven provides free groceries, fresh fruit and vegetables to well over 4,000 Tri-Valley residents and they've seen a stark increase in need due to a rise in unemployment and high-priced rents — both exacerbated by the pandemic, according to the nonprofit's statement.

Dillman said since opening the new pantry, they've seen about three to five new families everyday in addition to their regular guests, which she noted is a testament to the pantry's centralized location.

One of the key factors in selecting a location for the pantry was making sure it was accessible via multiple bus routes so that Dublin and Pleasanton residents could travel there easily, according to Dillman.

“I think that some people don't realize how many Pleasanton residents we really do serve and that was one of the things that we really wanted to focus on when we found a new site,” Dillman said, adding that, ideally, the organization would love to have individual sites in Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore.

Although its doors are open, Dillman said there are still a number of improvements on the horizon for the pantry.

Some of the plans that are still in the works include the installation of double doors to more efficiently bring in pallets of food, a walk-in freezer to store more items, an industrial sink that Dillman said the Livermore Rotary has offered to assist with and some refrigerators with clear, glass doors so that clients can see exactly what they want. Dillman said that one of the refrigerators has



TRI-VALLEY HAVEN

A peek inside the new food pantry for Tri-Valley Haven on North L Street in Livermore, which is now open.

already been donated by the Pleasanton North Rotary.

“We did what we needed to do to open but there are still financial needs and it's still a work in progress,” she said.

The new food pantry hours are Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-5 p.m.; Wednesdays from 1-7 p.m.; and Fridays and Saturdays from 12-4 p.m. More information is available at trivalleyhaven.org. ■

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SUNFLOWER HILL

Continued from Page 6

of Directors and staff to carry out the mission, vision, and organizational strategic plan, as well as overseeing operations,” she said.

Lenard-Benson graduated from Valparaiso University in Indiana with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a minor in social work and gender studies. She is also certified for fundraising management from Indiana University.

Talking about her work at Sunflower Hill, she said she is excited to continue the vision of the organization.

“Working as an organizational champion to further the mission and vision of the organization and will focus on achieving short-term goals while working toward long-term sustainability,” Lenard-Benson said. “I look forward to championing our next chapter.” ■

Local middle-schooler competes on 'MasterChef Junior'

'I like foods that have a lot of different moving parts,' Bhatia says

By JEANITA LYMAN

As a toddler and young child in San Ramon, Abir Bhatia said that one of the first things that sparked his passion for food was fresh berries.

"I love the colors and the sweetness, and those ... drew me into the kitchen," Bhatia told the Weekly in a recent interview. "I love the vibrant freshness of the berries. I think strawberries are my favorite food. I go through a box in like half a week."

Now, as a contestant on the current season of Fox's "MasterChef Junior," Bhatia's attraction to vibrant, fresh foods has come to be part of his signature style as a budding young chef showcased on network TV on Thursday nights.

"I'm definitely geared towards Mediterranean and Middle Eastern foods because they have a lot of bold flavors and fresh ingredients," Bhatia said. "I like foods that have a lot of different moving parts."

While fresh berries drew him into the kitchen early on, it was watching and learning from his mother's deft cooking skills that kept Bhatia there.

"She always knew what to do, like how much salt something needed,"

Bhatia said. "I wanted to have that kind of intuition and flare in the kitchen, so I kept asking questions and I picked up little bits of information, and then I started cooking on my own more often."

Outside of his own kitchen, Bhatia said that there were local restaurants, such as Walnut Creek's Telefèric Barcelona, which made him branch out and experiment in the kitchen.

"They have all these great Spanish-inspired dishes, and that's where a lot of my inspiration comes from," Bhatia said. "I'll go to the restaurant, eat something, and think either 'how can I make this better,' or 'how can I recreate this?'"

Further inspired by being a picky eater, like many young kids, Bhatia's attraction toward, and passion for, cooking made competing on "MasterChef Junior" a natural fit — and a goal he was determined to pursue upon watching the show, with the support of his parents.

"Seeing those kids, I wanted to be one of those kids, so I asked my mom and my dad, and they supported me the entire way through," Bhatia said.

Bhatia's television premiere saw him narrowly escape elimination in the first episode, landing in the bottom three for an ambitious yet poorly received kiwi lava cake. And while the reality competition show, headed by celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay who is infamous for bringing adults to tears, might seem like a high-pressure situation for contestants between 8 and 13 years old, Bhatia emphasized that things appear much more stressful on the show than they really were.

"One thing people watching don't realize is that things are a lot more calm than they look on the show," Bhatia said. "So we're not filming every day, we have days off where we go play in the pool. It was pretty fun not just to film but to hang out with the other kids."

Their shared interest in cooking, as well as filming the show and spending all of their time together, led to relationships between the contestants that Bhatia said were a highlight of the experience.

"Really, we have lifelong bonds, because that was a really unique experience that we all went through,"

Bhatia said. "I think we all definitely had our ups and downs on the show off-camera, so getting to spend those months that we did filming was really special."

With the eighth season of "MasterChef Junior" having been filmed prior to the start of the pandemic, Bhatia said that he hadn't been able to tell anyone about his appearance on the show until recently, but that neighbors and friends have been supportive, despite his cooking skills not being common knowledge.

"A lot of them are surprised, since they didn't know I could cook," Bhatia said.

Since Bhatia's cooking skills have been showcased on national television, he said that they have been in high demand from friends and neighbors. He hopes to expand his offerings in the city via a small baking business locally, which he's applied for a permit with the city for.

With the show having been filmed in 2019, Bhatia, now in eighth grade at Gale Ranch Middle School, has had a long time away from the camera. With the season premier finally airing this year, however, he said he's



San Ramon's Abir Bhatia is a contestant on this season of "MasterChef Junior."

happy to be back in the spotlight, and excited for what his budding celebrity status might hold.

Despite the rocky start, Bhatia was safe in last week's episode, which he says he particularly recommends to viewers.

Bhatia was among 14 remaining contestants back on Fox for the third episode of the show's eighth season at 8 p.m. last night, with results pending as of press time. ■

Conservancy taps Epstein as new executive director

Joins Tri-Valley nonprofit after CharityAdvantage tenure

By CIERRA BAILEY

The Tri-Valley Conservancy Board of Directors has officially selected a new executive director, following the abrupt resignation of its former leader in December.

Former CharityAdvantage CEO David Epstein is taking



David Epstein

over the reins from Board Chair Lori Souza, who has been acting executive director since Laura Antrim departed after five months leading the Livermore-based nonprofit, which aims to protect and advocate for agricultural land and open space.

"I'm excited to bring my strategy and leadership skills to Tri-Valley Conservancy," Epstein said of the new venture. "They are a very successful organization, and their accomplishments are impressive. I am

looking forward to this next chapter of growth for the organization."

In a statement this week announcing Epstein as the new permanent executive director, Souza expressed optimism for his leadership moving forward.

"David shares our passion for the protection of prime farmland and the promotion of our region's economically sustainable vineyards and orchards as well as other forms of open space. We are looking forward to his leadership as we

continue to make significant progress as an agricultural land trust," Souza said.

Epstein comes with more than 30 years of experience in business and nonprofit strategy, leadership and organizational growth, with extensive experience in management, marketing, fundraising, operations and finance, according to TVC's statement. His background includes 20 years with CharityAdvantage, which designs and hosts websites and online

fundraising systems for nonprofit organizations.

Epstein is also no stranger to land conservation work. He previously worked with the nonprofit sector at a local land trust in Pennsylvania, which connected him to the Land Trust Alliance in Washington D.C. where he consulted at their location in the 1990s and connected with other environmental organizations, including the Nature Conservancy, according to TVC officials. ■

PUSD

Continued from Page 5

Trustee Kelly Mokashi raised concern with the two choices but after a brief discussion, she conceded and made a motion in favor of Scenario 4 seconded by Student Trustee Saachi Bhayani.

Mokashi had suggested the board consider a third map choice — Scenario 2.

"Maybe some other thoughts might have been considered to consider Map 2 and Map 4, because Map 4 and 5 are very, very similar. So I'm just going to pose that question for reconsideration for Map 2," Mokashi said.

Board members did not show enthusiasm to reconsider or include another map after months of deliberation leading to the vote.

"What that does is every time a

vote is taken, then the person who loses can just keep bringing stuff back," Trustee Joan Laursen said.

Members agreed that introducing another map at this stage could present problems under the Brown Act, California's public meeting law.

Members agreed to move with two choices and a vote was cast, 3-2, making Map 4 the final winner of the night.

The deliberations also focused on how to sequence the election schedule for the new trustee areas. Under both final scenarios, Trustee Area 2 and Trustee Area 5 would be on the November 2022 ballot.

Board President Mark Miller, who lives in Area 5, previously said he would not run for re-election after his term ends this fall. No current trustee lives in Area 2.

Laursen, whose term is up this year and also is not seeking

re-election, resides in Area 3 as does Mokashi. Area 3, like Mary Jo Carreon's Area 1 and Steve Maher's Area 4, would be on the November 2024 ballot, in line with when those three trustees' current terms expire.

With the November election on the horizon, and Laursen and Miller not running again, both agreed to conduct informational workshops for potential candidates.

"So it'd be nice to gauge interest and give people an idea of all the really great things about serving on a board, and I'd like to make that suggestion," Laursen said at last week's meeting.

A variety of other items were considered during the meeting that lasted over four hours. Among the approved items were topics like upgrading school buildings, constructions, painting, furniture

in classrooms and computer purchases.

The evening started with presenting character awards to Pleasanton school students who were nominated by school staff for demonstrating one of the six traits like compassion, honesty, respect, responsibility, integrity and self discipline at school.

That was followed by recognition and honoring the work of the PUSD pandemic services team.

During the non-agenda public comments session, various issues were raised where residents explored for action by the board.

Residents pleaded with board members to scrap plans to construct a building in open field space behind Donlon Elementary School that students often use.

Liza Cruz Haff, mother to a kindergartner at the school, said,

"It's about child development, mental health, emotional health and a sense of belonging to a community."

Other parents joined in the plea too, saying green space is crucial for the overall growth and well-being of children who deserve to have a place to play and enjoy.

Another concern was raised by Annabelle Kim, a junior at Foothill High School who spoke about the current lack of adequate information about Title IX among school students and inefficient protection against sexual harassment.

"My sincerest hope is that by the time I graduate, the new grades of students will be fully aware of their Title IX rights," Kim told the board. "Will know how to report sexual harassment, and will be able to trust the trusted adults at our school enough to truly feel safe." ■

BART's projected fiscal cliff extended to mid-2025

Agency aided by latest allocation of federal relief funds

BART will be able to maintain its current service level through at least mid-2025 due to federal emergency funds, even if its ridership remains flat, according to the transit agency's budget officials.

While the transit agency's long-term financial outlook remains bleak, BART budget officials said last week that a recent allocation of \$271 million in federal relief funding will push the agency's projected fiscal cliff from mid-2024 to September 2025.

BART has received some \$1.5 billion in federal relief funds since the COVID-19 pandemic began. BART budget officials said last month that the agency was using roughly \$25 million per month from that relief funding pool to maintain its current operating schedule and staff size.

"Though this one-time funding will not solve our long-term ongoing financial deficit ... we do want to emphasize how grateful we are for this continued and necessary financial support," BART budget director Chris Simi told the agency's Board of Directors on March 24.

While BART's weekend ridership has begun to reach half of

its pre-pandemic levels, weekday ridership has continued to hover around 30%-35% as Bay Area continue working remotely, hindering the agency's fare revenue.

BART officials project ridership to return to just 70% of its pre-pandemic levels by the 2026-27 fiscal year.

As a result, the agency is projected for annual deficits ranging between \$112 million and \$174 million at the end of the decade and at the start of the 2030s.

"A \$112 million deficit in (fiscal year 2026) cannot be closed without some form of service cuts or impacts to our capital program," Simi said. "It's simply too high a percentage of our budget to trim back."

Simi said the agency intends to reduce its projected deficits for the 2026 fiscal year and beyond by roughly \$23 million per year via targeted spending reductions and potential revenue increases, although where that revenue may come from remains up in the air.

BART officials said in February they have begun the exploratory phase of putting a revenue-generating ballot measure in front of voters in the coming years, most

likely in November 2024.

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission has also considered a funding measure that would support transit agencies in all nine Bay Area counties.

BART officials also plan to move to a two-year budget process in response to the financial instability, arguing that presenting a two-year budget outlook each year will enable the board to make better financial decisions.

Board Director Rebecca Saltzman said she hopes the agency can expand service during "off-peak" hours in its upcoming budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year, citing that the return of weekend ridership has outpaced weekdays.

"I've gotten a lot of constituent complaints about this - people trying to get to the airport, people trying to get to an event and they're just finding that the service isn't enough and they feel like they don't want to take BART on weekends or at night," she said.

BART budget officials were expected to issue their preliminary budget memo for the 2023 and 2024 fiscal years this week. ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

Tree out at LAVTA

Exec resigning for job in Santa Cruz

BY SHIRI MARWAHA

Executive Director Michael Tree has announced his departure from the Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority effective April 22 to become CEO and general manager of the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District at the end of the month.



Michael Tree

Tree joined LAVTA in November 2014 when the local agency that operates the Tri-Valley's Wheels bus system was at a lull, having suffered five consecutive years of decline in ridership. Under his leadership, Tree introduced sweeping changes and transformed LAVTA and steered it toward success, including being named as North America's Transit Agency of the Year in 2020, agency officials said.

"He came to a transit system that was in a state of decline and in just a few short years, he was

able to reverse that trend and implement innovative programs that resulted in LAVTA being recognized as one of the premier transit agencies not just in California, but in all of North America," Pleasanton Mayor Karla Brown, chair of LAVTA's Board of Directors, said in a recent statement.

"On behalf of the LAVTA board, I would like to thank Michael for having a vision that improved mobility options for the residents of the Tri-Valley," Brown said, thanking Tree for exemplary work.

Foreseeing a bright future for LAVTA, Tree reminisced about the past seven years and expressed gratitude for the wonderful experience of working with the board, employees including operators and support staff.

"The agency has worked diligently to improve connectivity within the Tri-Valley, especially mobility for seniors and disabled passengers," Tree said. "The talented team at LAVTA has also worked to improve innovation in public transit with our Uber and Lyft partnerships and the agency's

shared autonomous vehicle project."

LAVTA officials listed other accomplishments for Tree and the agency during his tenure such as:

- His service restructuring in 2016 including a new high frequency Rapid bus route and access to BART and ACE rail stations, Las Positas College and other key destinations in the Tri-Valley, which led to over 8% increase in ridership in two years.

- Tree introduced the shared autonomous vehicle technology to the Tri-Valley, becoming the first agency in California with such an operation on public roads.

- He also served as the first executive director of the Tri-Valley/San Joaquin Valley Regional Rail Authority (Valley Link) for four years beginning in 2018 while working as LAVTA executive director at the same time. He oversaw the completion of the ValleyLink project feasibility report, environmental work and preliminary design, which identified alignment, stations and the system's operating characteristics. ■

THE CITY OF PLEASANTON



HIGHLIGHTS

Civic Arts Commission

April 4, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

- Discuss and Identify Process Improvements for the Annual Civic Arts Grant Meeting
- Review Civic Arts Project Status Report

Human Services Commission

April 6, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

- Tri-Valley Nonprofit Alliance Presentation
- Review FY 2021/22 Human Services Commission Grant Program Semi-Annual Reports

Library Commission

April 7, 2022 – 7:00 p.m.

- Review committee assignments and select alternates for April – December 2022
- Receive a progress report on library-focused projects from the Pleasanton Library and Recreation Department Strategic Plan 2019-2024

To explore more about Pleasanton, visit us at www.cityofpleasantonca.gov

We're looking for a few interns

We are seeking local high school or college students with an appetite for news and an interest in learning about print and digital media for internship opportunities. The interns will research stories, do interviews and help with fact checking and rewrites for the award-winning Pleasanton Weekly, LivermoreVine.com and DanvilleSanRamon.com. They will also be introduced to the other aspects of publishing, including advertising and production.

During the internship period, the intern will be an integral part of the team, participating fully in the process of gathering and presenting news.

Candidates must be responsible, have good writing skills, be available 10 to 12 hours a week and have reliable internet access. Internships require an academic sponsor. Applicants should send a resume, a cover letter explaining your interest and links to at least three examples of journalistic work to editor Jeremy Walsh at jjwalsh@embarcaderopublishing.com by noon April 20.

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Director Simon returns to BART board after address dispute

Removal needed majority board vote, not admin-level declaration

Lateefah Simon returned to the BART Board of Directors last week for the first time since she was briefly removed due to a dispute over whether she lives in the district she represents.



Lateefah Simon

BART officials announced March 10 that Simon would be stripped of her seat representing parts of San Francisco, Contra Costa

and Alameda counties.

On March 23, however, the agency reversed course and reinstated Simon after BART officials consulted with an attorney outside of the transit agency and determined that BART staff members do not have the legal authority to declare a seat vacant, as they did with Simon's seat.

Vacancies can only be declared by a majority vote by the board or a court order, Board President Rebecca Saltzman and General Manager Bob Powers said last week in a joint statement announcing Simon's reinstatement.

After missing the board's previous meeting on March 10, Simon thanked her supporters during the board's March 24 meeting and emphasized her intent to continue serving her district.

"I feel like I still have so much work to do ... and I want to be a part of this community of service," Simon said.

In a March 10 statement to supporters, Simon said she moved last year from her previous residence after her family received threats due to her support for police reform.

The conflict arose from her new

residence being, she said last week, "a block away" from the border of her district, which bisects the MacArthur BART Station and Highway 24.

Simon asserted in her March 10 statement that she had consulted with BART officials prior to moving and was "assured that the building is within District 7."

Simon and BART officials have both stated that they plan to consult with outside legal counsel to determine how she can remain on the board going forward.

She added that public transit is

a "deep lifeline" to many in her district as well as for her as a legally blind person who cannot drive.

"This is my duty as a transit-dependent person to be a part of a community that keeps folks alive, that keeps folks working, that keeps people being able to experience the beauty of the Bay Area, and I'm committed to that," she said.

Simon was first elected to the board in 2016 and served as the board's president in 2020. She is the only Black member of the nine-member board. ■

—Eli Walsh, BCN Foundation

THORNE

Continued from Page 5

Open Space Area, Firehouse Arts Center, Alviso Adobe Community Park, and the renovation of the Veteran Memorial Building — to name just a few," added Fialho, whose tenure included all of Thorne's 15-plus years on the dais.

"But his most significant and lasting legacy was his unwavering commitment to various veteran causes. He never missed a soldier's homecoming and was always present to greet them home with a friendly smile, words of encouragement, and as a sincere and thankful representative of the city," Fialho said. "I will miss him. My sincere condolences to his family for their loss."

Thorne is survived by his wife Kalee Thorne, daughter Keri Thorne Gough and two grandchildren. His first wife Sandra "Sandi" Roy Thorne died during his third term as mayor from complications during cancer treatment.

The cause of Thorne's death on Sunday afternoon appeared to be unexpected natural causes, but confirmation is pending. Flags on city poles were flown at half-staff in the former mayor's honor through Tuesday.

With Thorne's trademark Southern drawl and calm demeanor in the head chair, the city government navigated oft-debated issues of residential and commercial growth, infrastructure needs, water reliability and local control — with the coronavirus pandemic and social justice reform then thrust into the forefront during Thorne's final year on the dais.

"As an elected official and active citizen, Jerry Thorne made many positive contributions to our community over a long tenure of service. His sense of civic duty and love for Pleasanton was evident in all of his leadership roles," Vice Mayor Valerie Arkin



FILE PHOTO BY MIKE SEDLAK

Thorne (channeling the Beatles' famed "Abbey Road" album cover) crosses Main Street in downtown Pleasanton in 2019.

told the Weekly.

Councilwoman Kathy Narum said, "After dedicating 25 years of his retired public life to public service in Pleasanton, I'm devastated that Jerry wasn't able to fully enjoy everything he had planned for Kalee and himself. He lived his life as a good, decent and honest man. We will miss him and my thoughts are with Kalee, Keri and her family at this time."

In an interview with the Weekly last June just before his departure to Marana, Ariz., near Tucson, Thorne cited among his proudest accomplishments city park improvements, Highway 84 widening and safety projects between Livermore and Sunol, and the positive working relationship among the five Tri-Valley municipalities to achieve regional goals.

"I enjoyed my tenure as mayor. I enjoyed my tenure as a council member, as a park and rec commissioner. It's an experience I wouldn't take anything away from," Thorne told the Weekly last year, reflecting on his civic career. "Most of the really positive things were the parks that we managed to build, the activities that we managed to build for the community's kids."

Raised in Tennessee, where he graduated from Union City High School (Union City, Tenn.) and later earned a degree in chemical

engineering from the University of Tennessee at Memphis, Thorne served in the U.S. Army before a long professional career that included nearly 30 years with Hewlett-Packard and its affiliated company Agilent Technologies until retiring in 2002.

Moving to Pleasanton in his 20s, Thorne first entered city politics years later through his volunteer leadership with the Seahawks swim club and their members' and supporters' effort to bring a 50-meter pool to the city's aquatic center.

"I kind of got that done as a civilian, but I got to cut the ribbon as a park and rec commissioner," Thorne recalled last June.

Thorne spent 10 years on the city's Parks and Recreation Commission before earning election to the City Council on a special ballot in June 2005. He won re-election to full council terms in 2006 and 2010, and then successfully campaigned for the mayor's seat in November 2012 — winning the first of four consecutive two-year terms.

Interim City Manager Brian Dolan commended Thorne for a "long and impactful 25-year public service career" in Pleasanton.

"His advocacy for enhancing our quality of life and expanding activities for residents, in addition to his focus on transportation projects that helped alleviate

regional commuter traffic, are among long-lasting achievements that will continue to benefit the Pleasanton community and its citizens for many years," Dolan said in a statement.

Much of Thorne's early mayoral tenure focused on continuing to help guide the city through a time of considerable residential development accelerated as part of a 2010 settlement with two affordable housing coalitions and the California Attorney General's Office over Pleasanton's housing cap.

Amid that growth and at times tense public debates, Thorne said he would often look toward compromise solutions with developers, neighborhoods and fellow council members.

In city service, Thorne found himself as a strong advocate for inter-agency collaboration in the Tri-Valley to better accomplish shared regional goals while striving to retain local control.

"I think the relationships that we developed between the Tri-Valley cities is something that I really point to as a positive ... we were able to get together and accomplish so much in terms of funding, Highway 84 and things of that nature," Thorne told the Weekly last June.

He was a leading voice representing Pleasanton regionally in

the Bay Area, statewide through the League of California Cities and nationally through annual attendance at the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Thorne also served as an elected member of the Alameda County Republican Central Committee for several months during his final year as mayor before resigning ahead of his move to Arizona.

Public officials throughout the Tri-Valley offered reflections on Thorne upon his death on Monday.

"My condolences go out to the Pleasanton community and to Mayor Jerry Thorne's family and friends. As a fellow veteran, he always took good care of our service members and Veterans. Fair winds and following seas Mayor Thorne," Dublin City Councilman Shawn Kumagai said on Twitter.

"Sad to hear this news. Jerry was a true and dedicated servant to Pleasanton and our broader Tri-Valley. He put good policy before politics every time. And he was a good friend to all. Grateful for his life of service and friendship. Rest In Peace, Mayor Thorne," former state assemblywoman Catharine Baker tweeted.

Details about Thorne's memorial service, which is expected to be held in Pleasanton, are still pending. ■



FILE PHOTO BY MIKE SEDLAK

Thorne seen here at Callippe Preserve Golf Course for a photo shoot with the Weekly ahead of his 2014 State of the City address



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Staying Healthy

SPRING 2022

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Run for Education

PPIE's 10th annual fundraiser back at fairgrounds later this month



CHUCK DECKERT

Photos show participants off to the races at the 2018 PPIE Run for Education at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. The marquee fundraising event supporting local schools is on track to return fully in person on April 24. The fun run/walk features multiple distances, including a special kids-only race.

By SHIRI MARWAHA

The family-friendly 10th annual Run for Education will be held in person this year on April 24 at Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton.

After two years of being remote because of the pandemic, participants in 2022 can enjoy running or walking in the fundraiser together, but participants unable to make it to the event can still take advantage via the virtual option available.

The Pleasanton Run for Education began in 2013 and has been supporting the Pleasanton Partnerships in Education Foundation ever

since. Residents excited about getting back to normalcy can look forward to the event that helps provide funds for staffing, technology and other support for the 15 public schools in Pleasanton.

"The whole country shut down like March 16 (2020) and within a matter of weeks, we transformed it into a virtual run to race around America, that's pretty phenomenal," PPIE Executive Director Steve McCoy-Thompson told the Weekly.

"The revenue that we raise helps to find important supplemental staff like reading and math specialists and support counselors," McCoy-Thompson said of the Run for Education.





"It also helps to fund our programs. We call it the business school engagement program where we get business volunteers who provide career guidance to students."

For people who have been cooped up for a long time, the Run for Education offers yet another chance in 2022 to break free with an in-person event.

"The Pleasanton Run for Education provides a fun opportunity for the Pleasanton community to gather together in support of our schools," Kelly French, president of the PPIE Board of Directors, said via email.

According to French, the response from the community is promising and registration numbers are projected to be higher than pre-pandemic participation.

"PPIE is really looking forward to getting the community back out and in person at our signature event," French said.

The event creates a safe environment with an itinerary that includes talks from public speakers, along with music, food and activity accompanied by fun and frolic while raising funds for Pleasanton schools at the same time, according to organizers.

"We almost have a carnival style atmosphere," McCoy-Thompson said. "They're giving away food and drinks, and when people enter they get really nice shirt. We'll give everybody a participation medal, we have an award ceremony after that."

PPIE has organized a 5K for both runners and casual strollers and starts at 8 a.m. April 24. The 10K and 15K start at 7:50 a.m. and both courses pass through downtown Pleasanton and fairgrounds.

Kids under the age of 11 are included in a 1/4-mile challenge which starts at 9:15 a.m. with a fun award ceremony in the end.

All participants will be presented with a



CHUCK DECKERT

The annual PPIE Run for Education offers a little something for everybody, runners, joggers and strollers alike.

medal and top three performers will receive special placement at the end of the race.

The fundraising run is a great way to spend time with family, friends and community members, and it attracts people from all walks of life, organizers said.

"I look forward to speed walking with our Board of Trustees, as we gather for this fun, in-person, community event this year," Pleasanton Unified School District Superintendent David Haglund said. "I'm grateful to our friends at PPIE for hosting the Run for Education, this is a special event that has brought our community out to support our schools for a decade."

Although not mandatory, people are encouraged to maintain social distance and wear a mask at the outdoor event, organizers said. For more information or to register, visit ppierun.com. ■

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Screening and preventative care are vital in fight against colorectal cancer

Awareness month highlights new recommendations, continued health inequity

By JEANITA LYMAN

As the third leading cause of death in the nation, with the American Cancer Society estimating it will cause 52,980 deaths this year alone, colorectal cancer is something that all too many are aware of year-round.

But as medicine and understanding of the disease continue to progress, health professionals are seeking to reduce that number by recommending screening for younger patients, and continuing to draw attention to persistent racial inequities.

While this year's Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month particularly seeks to help get people between the ages of 45 and 49 in for regular screening, health experts are also seeking to bring awareness to disparities in treatment rates between Black patients and the general population at all ages when it comes to accessing screening and preventative care.

Despite its deadliness, doctors are finding that colorectal cancer is particularly responsive to preventative and early treatment, with advances in medicine over the past two decades greatly reducing deaths from the disease, and leading to new screening options.

New age guideline

Following several studies that suggest colorectal cancer tends to be more severe when found in patients younger than 50, which had been the previous age at which colorectal cancer screening was recommended for patients without increased risk factors, the U.S. Preventive Task Force updated its guidelines last May to lower the age of recommended screening to 45 years old.

"It looks like in these younger patients, it's a more aggressive cancer, and to address that they lowered the age of screening," said Dr. Anderson Rowe, gastroenterologist at San Ramon Regional Medical Center.

The updated recommendations continue to emphasize the importance of screening for

those between the ages of 50 and 75 as top priority, with a high level of confidence that regular screening in this population has a net benefit, while pointing to a moderate net benefit for those ages 45 to 49. Screening for those age 76 or above is only recommended in select cases by the task force, citing evidence that suggests a minimal net benefit from regular testing in this age group.

Lowe said that while the science seems to be clear that colorectal cancer is more serious in patients between 45 and 50, despite being less prevalent, it's not yet clear as to why this is.

Racial discrepancies in screening and outcomes

While deaths from colon cancer overall have been reduced with medical advances in the 21st century, Lowe said he remains concerned that this has not been the case across all demographics, particularly in Black patients, where rates of diagnoses and deaths continue to be on the rise compared to other demographics.

Similarly to the recent findings about the disease's increased deadliness in patients between 45 and 49, Lowe said that this discrepancy in outcomes across demographics is also poorly understood by scientists and doctors at this point, who haven't been able to pinpoint the reason.

However, Lowe said it is clear that rates of screening are persistently lower in Black patients. This has been the case for more than 15 years, he said, and something he and other professionals have sought to use Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month to bring attention to each year.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the rates of colorectal cancer screenings more than doubled for Black, Hispanic and Asian populations in America between 2000 and 2015, yet the highest rates of screening continued to be reported in white adults.



COURTESY GETTY IMAGES

Options for screening

One reason screening and preventative care for colorectal cancer is emphasized so heavily is because of its effectiveness.

According to Lowe, with nearly 98% of colorectal cancer cases starting as polyps, the goal is to find polyps and remove them, which has high rates of success when they're detected early, reducing risk by approximately 90%.

With the introduction of the colonoscopy 18 years ago having reduced deaths from colorectal cancer by approximately 30% since, Lowe said that new forms of screening that can be less intimidating for patients have been front and center in the fight against colorectal cancer.

"For patients who are hesitant to get a colonoscopy, the important thing is that there are other alternatives they can use to get screened instead," Lowe said.

One of these is Cologuard, which was

released in 2014 as a less-invasive alternative to the colonoscopy, which looks for blood and DNA mutations in stool samples that might suggest polyps. It's equally as sensitive to detecting active cancer cells as a colonoscopy, Lowe said, as well as polyps over a centimeter in size.

Lowe noted, however, that when it comes to detecting polyps smaller than a centimeter, the colonoscopy remains the most effective screening tool. Despite their relative invasiveness, colonoscopies have the advantage of only being recommended once every 10 years in most cases, whereas Cologuard is recommended every three years.

Nonetheless, the biggest message health officials and medical professionals tried to drive home throughout March was the importance of screening and prevention for colorectal cancer in particular. ■

Supporting environmental health

Pleasanton celebrating Earth Day all through April

By SHIRI MARWAHA

In honor of Earth Day, the city of Pleasanton is hosting celebrations each Saturday throughout the month of April, beginning this weekend.

The focus of the event is to encourage the Pleasanton community to explore the themes among the population to "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rejoice" — the "4 Rs" dear to environmentalists.

April 22 is observed as Earth Day and marks the birth of the modern environmental movement that began in 1970.

In lieu of just one day, Pleasanton will hold a month-long celebration starting with an "Author Spotlight" with Jessica Hernandez, author of "Fresh Banana Leaves". The event is scheduled for this Saturday (April 2) at Alviso Adobe Community Park at 3465 Old Foothill Road.

Next up, a creek cleanup will be held on April 9 between 10 a.m. to noon at Marilyn Murphy Kane Trail, 3200 West Lagoon Road.

Registration for the event is required at pleasantonfun.com; course code 5468.

The third event is a "Fix-It Workshop" on April 16, between 10 a.m. and noon, which will be held at the Pleasanton Senior Center at 5353 Sunol Blvd. Registration is required and for more details, go to pleasantonfun.com. Course code 5465

Onsite shredding at the Pleasanton Civic Center will be held on April 23, between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1-2 p.m. at 200 Old Bernal Ave.

That's not all that day; the other event is "Author Visit" where local children's author Keely Parrack will share her children's picture book, "Morning, Sunshine!" This will be held at the Alviso Adobe Community Park.

In a first-ever public event, a special screening of the documentary film "Hometown Water: The Lifeline of Pleasanton" will be held on the day before Earth Day. The film is produced and presented by the students of Pleasanton.

The screening is hosted by the Go Green



CITY OF PLEASANTON

Alviso Adobe Community Park is hosting several special events during the next month as the city celebrates Earth Day all month long.

Initiative and presented by the city's Community Education Series. In a post screening Q&A session with Zone 7 Water Agency personnel, the public is invited to ask questions and queries regarding "water, the precious natural resource".

The documentary will be screened on April

21 at 7 p.m. at Firehouse Arts Center, 4444 Railroad Ave. Learn more at www.gogreeninitiative.org. The free event requires registration; course code 5525.

Finally, an Arbor Day celebration will be held April 30 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Alviso Adobe Community Park. ■

Once a boon in pandemic, pet adoptions now on decline in Pleasanton

Valley Humane Society works to address shelter overcrowding, support families in need pre-surrender

By SHIRI MARWAHA

Valley Humane Society is a private nonprofit that aims to build healthier relationships between pets and people, but as of late adoptions of dogs and cats are on a decline, leading to overcrowding at the Pleasanton animal shelter.

“Well, first, it’s not because everyone that adopted during the pandemic is returning their pets,” Executive Director Melanie Sadek told the Weekly. “Statistically, it’s not proven to be true.”

According to Sadek, there’s a 16% decrease in the number of dogs entering the shelter now compared to the pre-pandemic.

A sudden surge in the demand for pets at the beginning of the pandemic had resulted in a shortage of pets at the shelter.

“We ran out of dogs in California in early 2020 and so people were kind of pushed to go into the internet and buy online,” Sadek said.

Online purchase of pets gained traction and online stores like Best Friends reported a 400% increase in

pet sales, according to Sadek.

“Even the Animal Legal Defense Fund is reporting that California is the No. 1 importer of dogs and cats in this country,” she said.

This change has an adverse impact on shelters in the neighborhood arising a need for community intervention to spread the word and encourage people to adopt from local shelters, according to Valley Humane Society.

“We need to get people to share the care and understand that if we want life-saving outcomes for dogs and cats in California,” Sadek said. “We need to all be working together and collaborating, (otherwise) the system doesn’t work and animals are going to end up dying.”

Community members can help by adopting pets or providing support to help people from having to leave their pets at the shelter because of financial problems and food insecurity.

“We are very focused on trying to stop animals from entering the shelter (by) supporting people who are dealing with food insecurity. We

provide hundreds and thousands of pounds of free food,” said Sadek.

Valley Humane Society also heavily promotes its available animals online.

“We have a program, where they can post the animal that they need to re-home and help promote that animal so that the dog and cat (don’t have) to go into a shelter,” according to Sadek.

People who have adopted pets from shelters have had great experiences and bonding with their pets.

“We adopted two pups from the Valley Humane Society, Scout is a red pit bull mix and Lacey is a black lab mix. We got Scout in November of 2021 and recently got Lacey in February 2022,” resident Jackie Massey said. “We love them to pieces.”

People in the community who cannot adopt pets can still help by volunteering to promote the animals and programs, according to Sadek. “We all have a network around us. And so even though we can’t take shelter pets, that doesn’t mean that they can’t promote the animals that



VHS/V. BISHOP

These puppies are among the animals to be sheltered at Valley Humane Society in recent months.

are available and help them find a new home.”

According to Sadek, people have a misconception animals are in the shelter because they’re unhealthy.

“There’s lots of reasons why dogs and cats end up in shelters. And most of the time, it has nothing to do with them. It has to do with life situations around the owner who can’t provide care,” she said.

Sadek implored people to adopt local pets and provide them with a loving home this spring.

“We really rely so heavily on the community to come in and adopt because when you’re adopting, you’re creating more space for animals that are genuinely in need,” Sadek said. “It’s an incredible system of life saving that connects animals with their new families.” ■

City officials, volunteers plant new trees in Springtown for Amplify the Urban Forest

Collaborative initiative in Livermore made possible by Cal Fire grant

By CIERRA BAILEY

There are 65 brand-new trees in Livermore’s Springtown neighborhood planted recently as part of the “AMPlify” the Urban Forest Arbor Day community event.

The event was a collaborative effort between the Rotary Club of Livermore Valley, JustServe and the city of Livermore, which saw more than 200 volunteers of all ages show up to help beautify the city and contribute to its environmental health, according to a statement from the city.

Livermore public works landscape supervisor Joe Prime coordinated city staff to prepare for the event, which included pre-digging holes.

“It’s beautiful to see what can occur when people work together toward a common goal. Today was such a day, and it was wonderful to plant 65 trees in such a short time,” Rotary Club president Angelika Voss-Quinn said during the March 12 festivities.

Volunteers were able to write their names on tree tags that will remain on the trees over the next few years, until they outgrow their stakes.

City officials said Livermore was one of 28 cities in California awarded the new trees as a recipient of the Cal Fire Amplifying the Urban Forests Circle 4 grant.

In attendance at the event with shovels in tow were City Councilmembers Bob Carling and Brittni Kiick as well as Kiick’s two children, Cora and Max.

“Amplifying the urban forest by planting trees in Livermore helps mitigate the impact of climate change,” Carling said in the city’s statement.

“Adding to our urban forest with such a great diversity of trees helps us meet our climate



CITY OF LIVERMORE

Daisy Troop 31287 participate in the event.

goals and also allows everyone to enjoy nature,” Kiick added.

In addition to the local agencies that worked together to organize the effort, the California Urban Forests Council, West Coast Arborists and Cal Fire were also partners in the process.

“Partnerships and collaborations in our program are vital. These many partners, especially here in Livermore, allowed this event to take place,” said Nancy Hughes, executive director of the California Urban Forests Council, who also attended the event in person and pitched in with volunteers.

Additional sponsors included the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, California Climate Investments, The Britton Fund, Invest from the Ground Up and Taylor Guitars. Ace Hardware in Livermore donated shovels.

City officials said that Livermore residents are encouraged to visit the trees — which are located on a former golf course in Springtown off of Bluebell Drive (near Hollyhock Street) — and observe how they grow over time. ■

Hope Hospice continues Family Caregiver Education Series

Next session is ‘Living With Dementia: New Diagnosis and Next Steps’

Tri-Valley nonprofit Hope Hospice is in the middle of its 2022 Family Caregiver Education Series, offering free webinars each month geared toward those caring for a loved one living with a terminal diagnosis or disabling chronic condition.

“The 12 interactive webinars cover a variety of topics and provide education, support, and resources relevant to family caregivers ... regardless of whether your loved one is a Hope Hospice patient,” the nonprofit said on its website.

The April session recently had its topic changed to “Living With Dementia: New Diagnosis and Next Steps”.

The web classes run from 10-11:30 a.m. via Zoom. Register online at HopeHospice.com/family or call 925-829-8770. Recordings of past sessions are available on the website as well.

The upcoming schedule, as described by Hope Hospice, includes:

April 14: Living With Dementia: New Diagnosis and Next Steps. “Hearing a doctor confirm that the memory issues you (or a loved one) have been experiencing are, in fact, early symptoms of dementia would understandably be cause for concern.

“While it may only be natural to think about the worst-case scenario, receiving a dementia diagnosis early on is actually a good thing — it gives you and your family more time to plan for the challenges that lie ahead. Our dementia specialists share resources and strategies to help individuals

and families prepare for the changes that a dementia diagnosis will bring.”

May 12: End-of-Life Issues: Hospice and Palliative Care. “End-of-life care refers to both the medical care and the emotional support that patients and families receive when death is imminent.

“Hope Hospice clinical staff will share general information about what to expect in the final days of life, transitioning to comfort care, selecting hospice services, and making funeral arrangements.”

June 9: Self-Care for the Caregiver. “The stress that family caregivers experience as their loved one declines can be staggering. The constant fluctuation of changing roles, uncertainty about the future, and fatigue may ultimately result in compromised health and family dysfunction.

“This webinar will focus on understanding the causes of stress, strategies for coping, and the importance of seeking support and utilizing resources.”

July 14: Handling Grief and Loss. “No matter how thoroughly one has prepared for the inevitability of death of a loved one, when the time comes it still can be a shock to the system.

“In this webinar, a local marriage and family therapist will discuss the complexities of grief and loss, including anticipatory grief and ambiguous loss. Participants will be provided with coping strategies to help them both during the final stages of life and after their loved one has passed.” ■

—Jeremy Walsh

POLICE BULLETIN

Police arrest burglary suspects after neighborhood search

Suspects in a Danville home burglary were apprehended in Pleasanton after crashing their car and hiding out briefly in a neighborhood while trying to elude police last week, according to authorities.

The highly visible suspect search, which closed some streets and involved multiple police agencies on the ground and in the air, ended when the two individuals got caught attempting to use a rideshare service to escape, according to separate press releases from the Danville and Pleasanton police departments.

The case actually began in Pleasanton, with police receiving a report around 10:15 a.m. March 23 about a car break-in outside the Stoneridge Shopping Center. Among the items taken from the vehicle was a garage door opener for a house in Danville, police said.

During the investigation, the victim received an alarm notification from her home. Pleasanton police said they immediately reported the alert to Danville police, who responded to the house on Ridgeland Circle and found it had just been burglarized.

A neighbor witnessed the home break-in and told police the culprits were driving a 2021 gray Honda Civic. Police said Danville officers spotted the Civic leaving the neighborhood and followed the car into San Ramon and onto southbound Interstate 680.

Danville officers tried to conduct a traffic stop on the car on I-680 south of Stoneridge Drive, with the suspect vehicle yielding for a moment before then fleeing southbound on the freeway, police said. With assistance from Contra Costa County sheriff's units, the Danville officers pursued the Civic down I-680.

The speeding Civic crashed while trying to take the Bernal Avenue freeway exit, and the two occupants got out of the car and ran from the scene

toward a nearby neighborhood, police said. They also alleged that items stolen during the original car break-in and the home burglary were found inside the suspects' vehicle.

Police said they set up a perimeter, including closing Bernal Avenue and West Lagoon Road, to try to locate the suspects. Agencies involved in the search included Pleasanton, Danville and Dublin police, Alameda County and Contra Costa County sheriff's offices and California Highway Patrol, including the Alameda County unmanned aerial vehicle team.

"Thanks to our vigilant community members, the individuals were later located in the vicinity trying to catch a rideshare," Pleasanton police said. The two suspects were arrested in the early afternoon on March 23; their names and pending charges were not identified.

—Jeremy Walsh

In other news

- A prison guard has been indicted for allegedly sexually abusing an inmate at an all-female federal prison in Dublin, federal prosecutors said last week.

Enrique Chavez is charged with two counts of abusive sexual contact against an inmate at Federal Correctional Institute Dublin, allegedly occurring on separate occasions in October 2020, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

In each count, the indictment alleges Chavez, 49, engaged in intentional sexual contact with "Victim 1," identified as a female inmate detained at FCI Dublin.

Chavez, a Manteca resident, was arrested March 20 and made his initial appearance in court in Arizona two days later pending a transfer to the Bay Area.

"Above all else, the Bureau of Prisons is charged with providing safe and humane treatment of all who are in their custody," Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said in a statement. "As this case makes clear, the Department of Justice is committed to holding BOP personnel accountable, including through

criminal charges, when they fail to uphold their responsibility. Staff misconduct, at any level, will not be tolerated, and our efforts to root it out are far from over."

According to the indictment unsealed last week, on the dates of the alleged crimes, Chavez was assigned to the position of cook supervisor/foreman and was supervising female inmates.

Each of the two counts carries a maximum sentence of two years in prison, three years of supervised release, and a \$250,000 fine.

Chavez's arrest comes only weeks after eight members of Congress including Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-Livermore), whose district includes Dublin, demanded an investigation into allegations of abuse and misconduct at the prison.

The members of Congress sent a letter to the U.S. Department of Justice's Inspector General Michael Horowitz and a separate letter to Michael Carvajal, the director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons, detailing what they want the investigation to include and what they want related to the audit.

"We were first made aware of the systemic issues plaguing FCI Dublin through the detailed articles and investigations completed by several reputable news sources earlier this month," the group said in a statement.

"These writings detailed how the all-women inmate population at FCI Dublin has allegedly been subjected to rampant sexual harassment and abuse at the hands of predatory male employees like former Warden Ray Garcia, former Chaplain James Theodore Highhouse, Prison Safety Administrator John Bellhouse, and recycling technician Ross Klinger," the leaders added.

—Tony Hicks, BCN Foundation

- More than a dozen activists and family members of those who have died in police custody demonstrated outside of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in Martinez on Tuesday morning, calling on Sheriff David Livingston to resign.

The group takes issue with an



RAY SAINT GERMAIN/BCN

Kathryn Wade, mother of Malad Baldwin, hugs Patricia Granados after speaking to families of Laudemer Arboleda, Angelo Quinto and community members during a protest at the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office in Martinez on March 29.

email Livingston sent his department after the March 3 sentencing of sheriff's Deputy Andrew Hall, who received a six-year-prison sentence after being convicted of assault with a firearm in the 2018 killing of unarmed motorist Laudemer Arboleda in Danville.

It was the first conviction of a police officer for a gun-related crime in county history.

Livingston wrote Hall "served with honor and distinction," and "After an extensive internal investigation, he was found to be within departmental policy when he was forced to use deadly force to protect himself and others on that fateful day. I was proud to support him publicly and privately after the events of November 3, 2018, and I support him today."

"For our district attorney to charge a deputy sheriff, or any peace officer, for a crime based on a split-second tactical decision is abhorrent," Livingston wrote. "It is even more abhorrent for that same district attorney to later repost photos on her reelection campaign social media that show her smiling and proclaiming that she 'charged the officer.'"

Jennifer Leong, Arboleda's sister, said among the statements in Livingston's email with which her family took issue was Livingston saying Hall's conviction was a "sad day." "It's not a sad day," Leong said. "It was a sad day when my brother was killed, Laudemer Arboleda. It was a sad day when Tyrell Wilson was killed. And it's a sad day that the other families that loved ones have been taken away have not had any justice in our system."

Hall also shot and killed Tyrell Wilson in March 2021, after being dispatched to the Sycamore Valley Road overcrossing of Interstate 680 for reports of a man throwing rocks onto the freeway. The men approached one another in the intersection and Hall, after telling Wilson to drop a pocket knife he was holding, shot Wilson.

The county has paid a total of \$9.4 million in settlement money to both families, even though the second killing is still being investigated. "We believed in the system. And

another person, Tyrell Wilson, was killed," Leong said. "So for Sheriff Livingston to say it was a sad day, to me, to my mother, to our family, that is disgusting. That is almost like a form of bullying. We are outraged. We want Sheriff Livingston to resign, we want him recalled. He cannot lead this community."

Hall shot and killed 33-year-old Arboleda at the end of a slow-speed police pursuit in Danville on Nov. 3, 2018. He shot him nine times as the Newark man pulled away at 6 mph.

Officers trailed Arboleda after someone called police to report Arboleda knocked on their door. Arboleda, whose family said he was hospitalized earlier that year for mental illness, pulled over multiple times, only to drive away from police. At one point, officers drew their guns without shooting as Arboleda drove away.

Hall was only involved at the very end, when he pulled in front of Arboleda at the corner of Front and Diablo streets. He exited his car and stood near the Honda's front right side. As Arboleda tried pulling away, Hall discharged his weapon 10 times, hitting Arboleda with nine bullets. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Hall's lawyers said the officer was only trying to protect himself from an oncoming vehicle, though video shows that many of the shots came from the vehicle's passenger side as Arboleda tried driving away. The car ended up crossing Diablo Road and colliding with an oncoming car.

Livingston's email got the attention of the Prosecutors Alliance of California, which asked the county Board of Supervisors to audit the disciplinary practices in Livingston's department.

Livingston responded in an email, saying "The so-called 'Prosecutors Alliance' committee is made up of only four of the 58 DAs in the state. Contra Costa is not San Francisco or Los Angeles where two of their far-leftwing founding members serve. Instead of playing politics here, they should do their job and prosecute offenders and start caring about crime victims for once." ■

—Tony Hicks, BCN Foundation

POLICE REPORT

The Pleasanton Police Department made the following information available

March 24

Graffiti

■ 7:40 a.m. on the 7300 block of Johnson Drive

Drug violation

■ 10:06 a.m. at Valley Avenue and Boulder Street

Theft

■ 10:12 a.m., 000 block of Vintage Circle; auto theft

■ 10:40 a.m., 500 block of Gerard Court; catalytic converter theft

March 23

Warrant arrest

■ 12:08 a.m. on the 2400 block of Santa Rita Road

■ 7:15 a.m. on the 3300 block of Stanley Boulevard

Vandalism

■ 1:37 a.m. on the 2400 block of Santa Rita Road

■ 8:28 a.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road

■ 10:35 a.m. on the 11900 block of Dublin Canyon Road

Theft

■ 7:54 a.m. on the 1300 block of Brookline Loop

■ 10:18 a.m., 1000 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; theft from auto

■ 11:18 a.m. on the 2700 block of Trailside Circle

■ 2:52 p.m., 2600 block of Minton Court; theft from auto

■ 5:59 p.m., 1300 block of Stoneridge Mall Road; shoplifting

■ 6:32 p.m., 2400 block of Raven Road; bicycle theft

Domestic battery

■ 2:32 p.m. on Vineyard Place

■ 7:08 p.m. on Vineyard Avenue

Burglary

■ 4:08 p.m. on the 4800 block of Bernal Avenue

Fraud

■ 5:29 p.m. on the 5700 block of West Las Positas Boulevard

March 22

Burglary

■ 6:49 a.m. on the 8500 block of Clubhouse Drive

■ 6:14 p.m. on the 4200 block of Rosewood Drive

Theft

■ 12:36 p.m. on the 4500 block of Pleasanton Avenue

■ 12:56 p.m. on the 500 block of Sycamore Road

Fraud

■ 3:43 p.m. on the 3400 block of Park Place

Drug violation

■ 9:15 p.m. on the 4300 block of Valley Avenue

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EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE WEEKLY

When term limits aren't really limits

Like many in the Tri-Valley, we were stunned as our team broke the news that former Livermore mayor John Marchand is planning to run for the position again this November in light of current Mayor Bob Woerner bowing out for health reasons after one term.

Wasn't Marchand just "termed out"? How could he come back after serving four terms?

Under basic city law in Livermore, that's how.

The Livermore Municipal Code does include "term limits," but as it turns out, the language only specifies "consecutive" years rather than an absolute maximum number of years.

We were certainly surprised. We suspect many other people are too.

And in our research, we've learned Livermore is not alone in the Tri-Valley — Pleasanton and Dublin "term limits" are in fact temporary as well; only the rule for San Ramon mayor service is definitive, like we see at the state level. Danville, of course, has no term limits.

We acknowledge our role in unintentionally perpetuating any misunderstanding by often using "term limits" and "termed out" unqualified in our past coverage. We apologize.

As we've looked internally, part of what is at play is the Pleasanton law was enacted by city voters before the Weekly launched in 2000, as well as the fact we can't remember a time when any candidate in Pleasanton or a neighboring community sought election again after reaching their initial limit.

That is no excuse, merely an attempt to explain an avoidable oversight we regret.

Plus, we know the main arguments for imposing a term limit are to encourage new blood to join the council and to prevent an old-guard from remaining in office unbridled — oh, a cynic might argue too that it helps protect the electorate from itself.

So, on its face, a temporary limit rather than absolute seems a bit oxymoronic.

But very clearly voters at their time in Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin deliberately approved caveats in their local law, based on our new research of the city code or charter sections regarding terms of service, as well as insights from city attorneys.

The "term limit" law in Livermore is the most direct, making clear a mayor or council member could return after "eight consecutive years" if "he or she has a break in service in that office of at least two years."

In theory then, a mayor of

Livermore could serve eight years on, take two years off, try to win four more elections in a row for another eight years, take another two-year break and so on.

The Pleasanton "term of office" law, enacted by city voters in 1996, also centers on the phrase "consecutive terms" — two for council, four for mayor.

Pleasanton city attorney Dan Sodergren told us he interprets the local statute to mean that "a council member could run for a third term if the term is not consecutive. The same for the mayor who could run for a fifth term if it is not consecutive."

Dublin's 235-word ordinance is also consecutive-based, but a bit more convoluted because city voters decided the eight straight years would be measured cumulatively among council time and mayoral service. So two four-year council terms would trigger a mandated interruption, as would one term as a regular council member followed immediately by two terms as mayor.

City staff confirmed they interpret Dublin's law to mean an eight-year council member or mayor could run again with a break in service.

San Ramon has no term limits for regular City Council seats (current Councilman Scott Perkins is in his fifth term, for example), but city voters did impose a maximum of four two-year terms for mayors.

That total is cumulative, not consecutive. Although there was a caveat added when San Ramon converted from odd-year to even-year elections, allowing the mayor to serve no more than nine years because of the added year from that switch.

The Danville Municipal Code does not reference term limits at all because it does not need to. Town or city council members have no term limits under state law so they only happen when adopted by public vote, Danville city attorney Robert Ewing told us.

Danville has seen some long-tenured council members over the decades — no sitting Town Council member has ever lost a re-election bid since Danville incorporated in 1982. Current Mayor Newell Arnerich has been on the council since 1995; Councilwoman Karen Stepper since 2002.

So that's where our research landed us. The Tri-Valley's "term limits" are, for the most part, just temporary.

To be clear, we are not casting any aspersions on Marchand's planned candidacy. He is, as we've laid out, well within his rights under city law to pursue another term. And he

probably has a great chance; he is arguably Livermore's best mayor in modern memory. We look forward to hearing more about his campaign vision, his new plans for Livermore, in the months to come.

We also wonder, though, if other experienced leaders have considered re-entering the local political fray, or might consider it now. With their consecutive clocks reset, names like Jerry Pentin, Jennifer Hosterman and Matt Sullivan in Pleasanton or Arun Goel and Tim Sbranti in Dublin come to mind initially.

The local laws in those communities would welcome the possibility with open arms, as we now know.

Since any term restrictions can only be enacted by a vote of the people, we can only assume that (most) residents casting ballots in Pleasanton, Livermore or Dublin at the time knew exactly what they were voting for: an interruption in consecutive service only, not a

permanent maximum tenure.

The problem is in some cases their city's election was a generation ago or more, and the letter of the law — and the spirit of the law — can become conflated to the casual observer over time. (For some insiders too, as we've found.) You hear an official say they're "termed out" or you see the newspaper cite a "term limit" and it's reasonable to conclude that terminology is absolute, absent clarifying caveats.

We promise to do better in that regard. Look for us to begin using verbiage like "temporarily termed out" going forward to help avoid further confusion.

And this could well be a vow in perpetuity. Remember: Just as starting a new term restriction requires a public vote, any amendment to a city's existing "term limit" law (even just a single word change) can only be made via an election, not through council-level action. ■

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

Beach House Waxing LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 587139

The following person doing business as: Beach House Waxing LLC, 4713 First Street, Suite 215, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Beach House Waxing LLC, 4428 Hacienda Drive, Apt. 104, Pleasanton, CA 94588, CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by Beach House Waxing LLC, a Limited Liability Company. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein April 16, 2018. Signature of Registrant: Victoria Gleese, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 9, 2022. (Pleasanton Weekly, March 18, 25, April 1, 8, 2022.)

Furry-God-Mother
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 587006

The following person doing business as: Furry-God-Mother, 4300 Black Avenue, #1252, Pleasanton, CA 94566, County of Alameda, is hereby registered by the following owner: Dawn Atwood, 4300 Black Avenue, #1252, Pleasanton, CA 94566. This business is conducted by Dawn Atwood, an Individual. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name listed herein February 25, 2011. Signature of Registrant: Dawn Atwood, Owner/Sole Proprietor. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Alameda on March 4, 2022. (Pleasanton Weekly, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2022.)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JANE CAROLE DAL PORTO also known as JANE DAL PORTO
Case No.: RP22121100. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JANE CAROLE DAL PORTO also known as JANE DAL PORTO. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: MARK WILLIAM DAL PORTO in the Superior Court of California, County of ALAMEDA. The Petition for Probate requests that: MARK WILLIAM DAL PORTO be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate

of the decedent. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on APRIL 13, 2022, at 9:45 a.m. in Dept.: 202 of the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda, located at 2120 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: Patrick Etchebehere, 293112, Etchebehere Law Group, 7250 Redwood Blvd., Ste. 380, Novato, CA 94945, (650) 288-0122. (Pleasanton Weekly, March 18, 25, April 1, 2022.)

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PLEASANTON PREPS

BY DENNIS MILLER

Amador wins fierce tennis match with Foothill in battle of EBAL's best

Also: Week of mixed results in volleyball, lacrosse, hockey

The top two teams in the East Bay Athletic League boys' tennis race reside in Pleasanton, and both came into their match March 24 with unbeaten records.

When it was all said and done, it was Amador Valley that came out on top of Foothill by a 5-4 final.

The teams split the six singles matches, with the Dons taking two of the three doubles encounters to

get the thrilling win.

In singles the results were: Aniketh Poruri (F) def. Bryan Park (AV) 6-1, 6-3; Minsung Kim (AV) def. Matthew Chen (F) 4-6, 6-3, 10-7; Christopher Lee (F) def. Rohan Patil (AV) 7-6, 3-6, 10-5; James Heeter (AV) def. Jivan Krishna (F) 6-2, 6-3; Aaron Sharma (AV) def. Ahan Trivedi (F) 6-4, 6-2; and Nick Tagalog (F) def. Stephen Gao (AV) 6-4, 6-2.

In the doubles the Dons' wins were Anuraag Aravindan/Vikram Murali over Archit Kumar/Ankur Hangal 6-3, 6-2; and Roy Kim/Hrishi Hari over Anas Joyo/Cam McNamara 7-5, 6-2.

The Falcons' doubles win came from Anuj Acherya and Komal Pamujula, who defeated Steven Yang and Nolan Smith, 7-6, 3-6, 10-8.

In their other matches that week, Foothill beat Dublin 6-3, with Amador getting the 9-0 shutout over Granada.

Boys' volleyball

The Dons came into last week riding high on a seven-match winning streak.

On March 22, Amador continued that streak and stayed unbeaten in EBAL play with a four-set victory over Monte Vista. Leading the Dons were Ethan Gray (2 blocks), Luke Melvin (9 kills, 14 digs), Colin Bowers (17 assists, 8 service pts) and Tyler Homes (5 kills, 3 blocks).

Two days later, a motivated Granada squad handed the Dons their first

loss in league with an impressive three-set sweep. Top performers for Amador were Nate Clinton (17 kills, 8 digs) and Max Riter (8 kills, 8 digs).

Across town, Falcons faced a pair of battles last week and came out with a split too.

The week started with a lengthy, four-set win over San Ramon Valley in a match. Highlights in the win came from Landen Meonske (24 service pts, 8 aces, 22 assists, 11 digs), Zach Seraj (18 kills, 6 digs), Alex Hernandez (13 digs, 10 kills) and Caden Stedman (10 kills, 3 digs).

In the second match, Foothill fell to Dublin four sets. Top performers included Meonske (48 assists, 12 digs), Tyler Keala (21 kills, 11 digs), Seraj (22 kills, 6 digs) and Noah Mitzenmacher (18 digs, 3 assists).

Amador hockey

The Dons ice hockey team split their two games at Dublin Iceland last week.

First, they lost to Cal High 8-4. DJ Van Fleet scored 2 goals, while Ryder Lahrs and Brett Patzer each scored 1. Hunter Selkow, Patzer, and Van Fleet each had an assist.

The Dons rebounded by beating Dublin 5-3. Will Coultrip and Van Fleet each recorded 2 goals, while Rae Kerton scored 1. Lahrs, Van Fleet, and Patzer each recorded 2 assists, with Preston Elliott recording 1 assist.

Foothill boys' golf

The Falcons had only one match last week, taking on California and Monte Vista at Blackhawk Country Club.

Foothill's 202 was better than Cal's 210 and Monte Vista's 217. Brandon Knight was the low score for Foothill with a 1-under, 36.

Amador boys' lacrosse

The Dons split their two games last week, beating Davis and losing to Miramonte.

The win over Davis was a 14-2 thumping by Amador. Collin Wallace led the scoring with 6 points (4 goals, 2 assists), while Will Coultrip (2 goals, 1 assist) and Max Young (1 goal, 2 assists) each had 3 points.

Maxim Carrel and Rithwik Shah each recorded their first goals of the season. Great team defense limited Davis to 12 shots. Alex Kragen forced 3 turnovers, while Dillon Duke recorded a ground ball and one forced turnover.

Next up, Amador dropped a 18-12 decision to Miramonte. Wallace had seven points (3 goals, 4 assists), while Sebastian Diligent (2 goals, 1 assist) and Mateo Castillo (3 goals) each had 3 points. Tommy Hinek collected 3 groundballs, while Kragen forced 2 turnovers. ■

Harbourne triplets are great athletes, regardless of the sport

BY DENNIS MILLER

The banter of a large family is always something to look back at and put a smile on your face as you get older.

For Emma, Ben and Adam Harbourne, triplets who are seniors at Foothill High School, they have enjoyed the best of times while growing up, with playing sports being the center of their lives.

Athletics started early for the trio, who are now 17 years old, turning 18 in September.

"My parents gave us soccer balls when we were 4," Emma said. "I just loved it and stuck with it. I tried dance for a while, but I just loved soccer."

"I think I played all sports when I was 4," said Ben. "At 8 or 9, I wanted to pick a couple of sports. I went with soccer because I wanted a team sport. I really like golf as well because you have to rely on yourself. I enjoy the pressure of having to count on myself."

Adam followed suit sports-wise with Ben until two years ago. It was at the beginning of his junior year Adam was approached by the Foothill football program about being the kicker.

He took the job and had a good two-year career, including a 48-yard field goal this year as the Falcons won the East Bay Athletic League (EBAL) Valley Division and advanced to the North Coast Section finals. It was way different than playing golf or soccer.

"I was really worried about that first kickoff," said Adam, who earned all-EBAL honors. "I just kept my head down and focused on hitting the back of the ball."

The three are wrapping up successful high school athletic careers.

Emma played four years of soccer at Foothill, with three years as a starter on the junior varsity team and this year on the varsity; she scored the winning goal in a first-round NCS soccer game.

Ben played four years of soccer at Foothill, as well as two years of varsity golf. Adam played four years of soccer as well, including three years as the starting goalie. He is playing golf this year, as well as the two-year stint as the Foothill kicker.

All impressive resumes for high school athletics. The question which begs to be answered — who is the best athlete?

Enter the good-natured sibling bantering.

"That is so hard," Emma said. "We all have different athletic abilities and have all done well. We are all competitive — it's always fun to see who would win. But there are some sore losers."

Ben was more straight to the point — on everything Emma offered.

"We are all athletic, but I have a lot of confidence so I would have to pick myself," Ben said, with Emma and Adam laughing in the background. "And I am definitely the sore loser."

Adam confirmed Ben's feelings — to a point.

"Ben is the most natural athlete," said Adam, then quickly added. "But I have worked a lot harder than him."

The trio have been tight their entire lives, something that really was one of the lone bright spots during the COVID lockdown.

"It was always nice to have someone around to play with," Emma said of her brothers. "During COVID we had each other. We could always do stuff like run out and get lunch together."

Emma also recalled the chaos of youth sports days with all three playing. "It was hectic growing up getting to different practices and different games," she said. "People would always say, oh my gosh, you are triplets. For us, everything came naturally."

Was having two brothers burdensome in terms of being overprotective?

"I was the little bossy one when we were growing up," Emma said with a laugh.

"We all got our licenses the same day," Ben said. "There was a lot of bantering about who would get theirs and who would fail."

Of course, they all passed. And they were better than your average siblings when it came to confrontation.

"We would get annoyed with each other sometimes, but we always got



COURTESY OF HARBOURNE FAMILY

Ben, Adam and Emma Harbourne, triplets at Foothill, have enjoyed the best of times while growing up, with playing sports being the center of their lives.

over pretty quick," added Adam.

Now that the end of senior year is rapidly approaching, the trio will be at the end of their run at the same school. All will look to play sports, be it the intramural or club level.

Adam (3.9 GPA) and Ben (3.7) will both be attending Arizona State — they will live in separate dorms, to which Adam slid in "it's probably a smart decision."

Emma — a 4.0 student — is waiting to hear back from a couple more schools but will not be attending ASU.

What will be the lingering memory the three will carry forth?

"I think watching them play soccer," Emma said. "I would always tag along and watch them play. I was such a fan, always yelling for them,

then also telling them they have to get better."

Ben's favorite memory also relates to soccer. "I would have to say it was having Adam on the soccer team with me," he said. "We got to finish our high school soccer career by beating Amador."

Adam harkens back to the end of this football season.

"I think it would be Senior Night for me," Adam said. "Hearing my name called and walking out on to the field and seeing them there. I will always remember that." ■

Editor's note: This story originally appeared in the Tri-Valley Preps Playbook, a free e-newsletter that covers Tri-Valley high school sports. Subscribe to the newsletter at PleasantonWeekly.com/express/sports.

Entertainment

OAKLAND BALLET-DANCING MOONS FESTIVAL The Oakland Ballet Company is collaborating with the Oakland Asian Cultural Center to present the Dancing Moons Festival at the Bankhead Theater. 8 p.m., April 2. Tickets \$20-\$68. Visit livermorearts.org.

HOT PEAS 'N BUTTER Children have a hard time resisting the engaging mix of Latin Jazz, Afro-Caribbean rhythms, folk and rock music served up by Hot Peas 'N Butter. 3 p.m., April 3. Tickets \$10-\$20. Bankhead Theater.

TOM RIGNEY AND FLAMBEAU Tom Rigney and Flambeau specialize in blazin' Cajun two-steps, low-down blues and funky New Orleans grooves. 2 p.m., April 3. Tickets \$15-\$25. Visit firehousearts.org.

THE 5 BROWNS AT THE BANKHEAD The 5 Browns deliver on their dream to wake up classical music by introducing it to the widest, largest and most excited audience they can find. 7:30 p.m., April 7. Tickets \$20-\$78. Visit livermorearts.org.

COURTYARD CONCERTS AT THE BANKHEAD Kick off the weekend with a happy hour in the stunning Madden Courtyard while enjoying the live music of Aaron Burnham & The Brushfires. Tickets \$20. 5:30 p.m., April 8. Visit livermorearts.org.

AL FRANKEN AT THE BANKHEAD Take this rare opportunity to hear from the only speaker on the lecture circuit whose career spans from winning four Emmy Awards to serving 10 years as a United States senator. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., April 9. Tickets \$20-\$128. Visit livermorearts.org.

LEGENDS OF FOLK AT THE BANKHEAD Two of the most popular folk groups of all time, The Kingston Trio and The Limelites, come together in one show. 3 p.m., April 10. Tickets \$20-\$98. Visit <https://livermorearts.org>.

DRUM TAO AT THE BANKHEAD Internationally-acclaimed percussion artists TAO continue to transfix audiences worldwide with their modern, high-energy showcase of the ancient art of Japanese drumming. 7:30 p.m., April 14. Tickets \$20-\$95. Visit livermorearts.org.

Talks

VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALK ON JOHN MUIR'S DRAWINGS The Livermore Public Library will host a talk by Mike Wurtz, author of the book "John Muir's Grand Yosemite: Musings and Sketches". 2 p.m. April 2. Visit livermorelibrary.net.

AMADOR VALLEY QUILTERS The April meeting via zoom discusses "The Smuggle Principles", by Karen Brow. Animal themes are her specialty with both pieced and appliqued blocks. 1:30-4 p.m., April 9. Visit amadorvalleyquilters.org.

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VS. URGENT CARE WEBINAR Presented by Stanford Health Care-ValleyCare, this San Ramon

PET OF THE WEEK



TVAR

Meet Buffy

Buffy is a young, playful and adorable Terrier mix ready for her forever home! She's a 1-year-old, happy, loving and sweet girl who enjoys cuddles and kisses. She's a nice, sturdy size at 19 pounds. Buffy likes fetch and playing with toys. She knows the sit command and seems eager to learn more. She's doing wonderfully in her foster home with Tri-Valley Animal Rescue volunteers. She is house-trained, crate-trained, and does well with cats and other dogs. Visit tvar.org.

Chamber of Commerce education seminar will discuss services offered in the Emergency Department in Pleasanton and the Urgent Care locations in Dublin and Livermore. 11 a.m., April 11. Visit sanramon.org.

SAFE DRIVING FOR NEW DRIVERS The Livermore Public Library is hosting a Safe Driving for New Drivers workshop on Zoom. Claudia Castro, senior driver ombudsman at the Department of Motor Vehicles presents important information relevant to new drivers. 6 p.m., April 13. Visit livermorelibrary.net.

LIVING WITH DEMENTIA-NEW DIAGNOSIS AND NEXT STEPS In this webinar, Hope Hospice dementia specialists share resources and strategies to help individuals and families prepare for the inevitable changes that a dementia diagnosis will bring. 10-11:30 a.m., April 14. Visit hopehospice.com.

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS LEARN ABOUT THE LAW Attorney Kelley Way will advise writers on what they need to know about copyright, contracts and other legal issues at the next Tri-Valley Writers meeting. Reserve and pay online at trivalleywriters.org by April 15.

Showcases

VISIONS OF SPRING EXHIBIT AT THE BANKHEAD Presented by the National League of American Pen Women-Diablo/Alameda Branch, the opening reception includes musical presentations, poetry readings and refreshments. 1-3:30 p.m., April 2. This free exhibit runs through May 31.

ALL BREED CAT SHOW Fancy felines from around the country will be on display and competing for Best Cat at the 41st annual Cat Fanciers Association cat show at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., April 2-3. Visit alamedacountyfair.com.

GOLDEN GATE ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION SHOW The Golden Gate Arabian Horse Association presents their annual horse show at the Pleasanton Equestrian Center. 8 a.m.-5 p.m., April 2-3. Admission is free. Visit goldengateaha.com.

Family

2022 DIESEL TRAIN RIDES See Niles Canyon in all of its green winter splendor, departing from the Sunol Depot. Tickets \$15-\$25. 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m., April 9-10 and 16-17. Visit ncry.org.

HOLI CELEBRATION-BISHOP RANCH Get ready to get messy at this free gathering at Bishop Ranch with the traditional tossing of colors, activities including henna tattoo artists and Bollywood dance performances. 5:30-8 p.m., April 8. 6000 Bollinger Canyon Road.

FAMILY CYCLING WORKSHOP This workshop event is for kids who are able to ride a bike and ready to take paths and roadways with their parents. 10 a.m.-12 p.m., April 10. Hart Middle School, 4433 Willow Road. For more information, visit bikeeastbay.org.

Support

POP-UP CARE TENT AT PLEASANTON LIBRARY Weekly CityServe Pop-Up Tents meet with those in need to coordinate care and connect to local resources. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 400 Old Bernal Ave.

HOT MEALS & GROCERIES FREE OF CHARGE Prepared by Open Heart Kitchen, 1-3 p.m., Monday-Friday. 911 Loyola Way, Livermore. Around the corner from the Robert Livermore Community Center.

FREE SHOWER & LAUNDRY SERVICES Monday-Wednesday, 12-4 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 4743 East Ave., Livermore.

Outdoor Recreation

RANGER-LED PROGRAMS "The Way of the Hunter" is the next ranger-led program at Sycamore Grove Park. 2 p.m., April 2. RSVP to seddings@LARPd.org.

HIKE FOR HOPE REGISTRATION IS OPEN The 2022 Hike for Hope is May 14 at Del Valle Regional Park in Livermore. This annual memorial hike fundraiser generates support for Hope Hospice. Register early to receive a t-shirt at TheHikeForHope.com or call 925-829-8770.

Students

TRI-VALLEY WRITERS' HIGH SCHOOL WRITING CONTEST Tri-Valley Writers presents "My Story, My Vision", the annual writing contest for local-area students. The contest is open to students grades 9-12 in the Tri-Valley (Livermore, Pleasanton, Dublin, San Ramon and Danville). Cash awards for winners and a one-year membership to Tri-Valley Writers. Submissions until April 3. Visit trivalleywriters.org/high-school/high-school-writing-contest-2022.

AAUW COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS The Livermore-Pleasanton-Dublin Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has a local scholarship foundation project that sponsors and awards scholarships to qualified applicants each year ranging from \$2,000-\$2,500. The deadline is May 1. Visit lpd-ca.aauw.net.

Seniors

INCREDIBLE EDIBLE PLANT SALE Over 5,000 vegetable seedlings and culinary herbs will be for sale online, \$4 for each 4-inch pot. Plants need to be ordered online in advance and customers select curbside pickup times. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., April 9-10. Visit incredibleedibleplantsale.com. Pleasanton Senior Center.

AARP TAX ASSISTANCE AARP sponsored tax assistance returns to the Pleasanton Senior Center, Mondays and Fridays, now until April 15. To make an appointment call 925-931-5365.

Fundraiser

TEA PARTY IN A BOX FUNDRAISER The Assistance League of Amador Valley is hosting their annual Mad Hatter's Tea in a Box. Tickets will be on sale until April 15. Price \$75. To order visit assistanceleague.org/amador-valley.

Employment

Product Manager, Loyalty Program & Campaigns

Safeway Inc. is hiring a Product Manager, Loyalty Program & Campaigns (in Digital Marketing & Integrated Partnership Platform Development) in Pleasanton, CA. Must have legal right to work in U.S. EOE. Subj. to backg. check. 10%-15% domestic travel for technology business reviews. Email Project@albertsons.com, Attn: Marcy Gutierrez

Senior Web UI Developer

Safeway Inc. is hiring Senior Web UI Developer in Pleasanton, CA. Must have legal right to work in U.S. Subj. to bckgrnd check. E.O.E. Email resume@ta.perm. Project@albertsons.com. Attn: M. Ferriera

To place an ad or get a quote, call 650.223.6597 or email digitalads@pawebkly.com.

Multiple Positions

Workday Inc. is accepting resumes for the following positions at various levels in Pleasanton, CA: **Software Engineer / Software Development Engineer (SESDE-001/002-J01-09)** - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp incl: OO design & dev; Algorithms and data structures; Programming langs; & DB & querying langs. **Software Application Engineer (SAE-003/004-J01-09)** - Analyzes, designs, programs, debugs, and modifies software enhancements and/or new products used in local, networked, or Internet-related computer programs. Exp incl: OO design & dev in OO lang; design/dev biz apps using syst visualization tools; & XML & integration concepts. Submit resume by mail to: Workday, Inc., Attn: Human Resources/Immigration, 6110 Stoneridge Mall Road, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Must reference job title and job code.



Today's local news & hot picks

Sign up at PleasantonWeekly.com/express

Pleasanton-based Realtor Cunha named Bay East president Association installs 2022 leadership team

By JEREMY WALSH

Longtime real estate professional Sheila Cunha, of Legacy Real Estate and Associates in Pleasanton, has ascended to the role of president of the Bay East Association of Realtors.

Cunha, who has 20 years of experience in the industry, has held positions on the Bay East Executive, Local Government Relations and Political Activities committees, as well as the Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Committee. She also currently serves on the California Association of Realtors Board of Directors.



Sheila Cunha

"Cunha's focus for 2022 will be promoting the Bay East core values: communication, integrity, vision, innovation and leadership, and helping Bay East members succeed," association officials said.

Cunha was installed as 2022 president at a small special event on Jan. 31. The association also swore in other members of its Board of Directors and leadership team at a ceremony the next day.

With headquarters on Koll Center Parkway in Pleasanton and a satellite office in Alameda, Bay East is a trade association serving more than 6,000 residential and commercial real estate professionals in the region.

The 2022 Bay East leadership team includes:

Officers

- President Sheila Cunha, Legacy Real Estate and Associates, Pleasanton.
- President-Elect Steve Medeiros, REALTY Experts, Fremont.
- Treasurer Barbara Clemons, Coldwell Banker Realty, Pleasanton.
- Past President Tina Hand, Legacy Real Estate and Associates in Pleasanton.
- CEO Tricia Thomas.

District representatives

- North County: Troy Staten, Compass, Oakland.
- Central County: Bill Espinola, Parkview Realty, Hayward.
- Tri-City: June Burekhardt, Legacy Real Estate and Associates, Fremont; Alison Hull,

Realty Experts, Fremont; and Sumii Jhington, Realty Experts, Fremont.

- Tri-Valley: Don Faught, Compass, Pleasanton; DeeDee French, Diamond Properties, Livermore; Sandi Gomes, Pride Properties, Livermore; and Ed Gomes, Pride Properties, Livermore.
- At-Large: Joe Annunziato III, Annunziato and Associates, San Leandro; Viviana Cherman, Elation Real Estate, Pleasanton; Angela McIntyre, Compass, Oakland; Frank Quismorio, REALTY Experts, Fremont; Geraldine Ramirez, Bay City Real Estate Group, Pleasanton; and Paul Wong, Coldwell Banker Realty, Oakland.
- Affiliate Director: Tim Denbo, VirtualTour-Cafe, LLC, Pleasanton.
- Parliamentarian: Nancie Allen, Compass, Fremont. ■

OPEN HOMES THIS WEEKEND

PLEASANTON

3557 Olympic Court South	\$1,550,000
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00	3BD/2BA
Keller Williams Tri Valley Realty	925-413-6544
1536 Maple Leaf Drive	\$2,379,000
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00	4BD/3BA
Compass	510-541-0572

1693 East Gate Way	\$1,850,000
Sat/Sun 1:00-4:00	4BD/3BA
Keller Williams Tri Valley Realty	925-413-6544
8063 Regency Drive	\$2,688,000
Sat/Sun 1:30-4:00	5BD/3BA
Better Homes and Garden- Reliance Partners	925-963-1984

Legend: Condo (C), Townhome (T).

Agents: Submit open homes at PleasantonWeekly.com/real_estate

SALES AT A GLANCE

Pleasanton (Jan. 31-Feb. 4)

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$525,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,250,000
Average sales reported: \$1,302,500

Livermore (Jan. 31-Feb. 4)

Total sales reported: 13
Lowest sale reported: \$587,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,260,000
Average sales reported: \$1,050,000

Dublin (Jan. 31-Feb. 4)

Total sales reported: 6
Lowest sale reported: \$850,000
Highest sale reported: \$3,050,000
Average sales reported: \$1,830,250

San Ramon (Feb. 22-25)

Total sales reported: 14
Lowest sale reported: \$520,000
Highest sale reported: \$2,618,000
Average sales reported: \$1,339,000

Source: California REsource

HOME SALES

This week's data represents homes sold during Jan. 31-Feb. 4 for Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin, and Feb. 22-25 for San Ramon.

Pleasanton

- 2140 Alexander Way** M. Anikathil to K. & T. Radhakrishnan for \$935,000
- 1995 Barcenilla Lane** S. Rajkumar to C. & R. Braich for \$1,300,000
- 3706 Crofters Court** B. & W. Owens to M. & A. Alim for \$1,740,000
- 2840 El Capitan Drive** V. Tandon to S. & N. Rudrapada for \$1,425,000
- 2150 Goldcrest Circle** Russell Trust to X. & Y. Shen for \$1,270,000
- 3305 Hudson Court** J. & H. Ballesteros to C. & A. Arora for \$1,675,000
- 8185 Mountain View Drive #E** M. Maddah to N. Lam for \$525,000
- 4209 Passeggi Court** G. & S. Wise to Z. Yang for \$795,000
- 4056 Payne Road** Sullivant Trust to N. & S. Deshpande for \$1,305,000
- 4161 Rennellwood Way** Chin Living Trust to M. & S. Liu for \$1,558,000
- 1074 Santa Rita Road** K. & J. Dawson to M. & F. Ulas for \$1,048,000
- 3362 Santa Rita Road** Redfinnow Borrower LLC to C. & S. Koon for \$750,000
- 6890 Via Quito** S. & J. Arguello to S. & V. Mohan for \$1,905,000
- 2523 Yolanda Court** Bright & Broad Funds LLC to E. Ludvigson for \$3,250,000

- 1932 College Avenue** Robles Trust to K. & L. Collins for \$1,825,000
- 393 Covellite Lane** Akaal LLC to Dore Family Trust for \$1,505,000
- 1661 De Leon Way** Barbara Trust to Young Family Trust for \$1,356,000
- 4218 East Avenue** Estrada Family Trust to T. & A. Lin for \$1,251,000
- 6144 Forget Me Not** Maier Trust to A. & K. Gupta for \$795,000
- 1444 Milan Court** M. & M. Jessick to S. & P. Pise for \$2,260,000
- 485 North P Street** V. Talistu to S. Maru for \$925,000
- 1863 Peary Way** C. & N. Colella to D. & J. Terrel-Perez for \$800,000
- 3925 Portola Common #4** R. & K. Sabal to P. McMahon for \$930,000
- 1617 Spruce Street** R. & A. Raguindin to A. & U. Javed for \$800,000

Dublin

- 5597 Apex Drive** A. Bosch to C. Fu for \$850,000
- 2817 East Castle Pines Terrace** B. Kaur to P. Paik for \$3,050,000
- 4141 Healdsburg Way** V. & A. Shah to P. & V. Posa for \$1,800,000
- 7616 Jacqueline Street** R. Chae to A. & A. Sidhu for \$2,650,000
- 11735 Shadow Drive** B. & R. Dacanay to A. & S. Agashe for \$1,860,500
- 3427 Zenith Avenue #103** J. & X. Cai to C. & N. Wong for \$1,200,000

Source: California REsource

Livermore

- 1364 Arlington Road** K. & C. Simonds to M. & D. Johnson for \$1,050,000
- 752 Bellflower Street** Ganz Family Trust to H. & A. Crabb for \$587,000
- 1137 Caroline Court** Redfinnow Borrower LLC to F. Nguyen for \$1,200,000

Editor's note: The full list of Home Sales reported in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, Sunol and San Ramon during this period can be found with the online version of this story at PleasantonWeekly.com.

Thinking of buying or selling in 2022? CALL CINDY!

OPEN HOUSE SAT. - SUN. 1:30 - 4:00



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1294 SAINT MARY DR. LIVERMORE
DARLING, OPEN floorplan!! 4 big bed 2 bath
Amazing, inviting courtyard, gourmet kitchen,
white cabinets, hardwood flooring, lots of windows!
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Offered at \$1,228,000



PENDING - LIVERMORE

248 MARTIN AVE.
Over Asking!!
Offered at \$1,068,000

COMING SOON Condo downtown Pleasanton

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SCAN ME**



PLEASANTON LUXURY LISTING

COMING SOON | \$3,528,000
8003 ROCKFORD PLACE, PLEASANTON



RUBY HILL LUXURY LISTING

JUST LISTED | \$3,899,000
3218 NOVARA WAY - RUBY HILL, PLEASANTON



OPEN HOUSE SAT & SUN 1-4PM

JUST LISTED | \$739,000
1068 OLIVINA AVE, LIVERMORE



SOLD \$300K OVER LIST PRICE

SOLD | \$1,700,000
560 E ANGELA STREET, PLEASANTON



Agent Spotlight

Claire Meager
BROKER ASSOCIATE
(925) 315-4502

With 20 years of experience, Claire Meager has a superb track record for assisting her clients. Claire recently sold a Luxury Fremont property, after just for days on the market, for \$4.05M. Claire oversaw minor renovations on the property which resulted in an unbeatable sale price at \$301K over list price. Her expert negotiation skills, and local connections, have allowed her to secure homes for two of her buyers in the last month. If you are in the market to buy or sell a home, be sure to contact Claire Meager today: (925) 315-4502.

What Claire's Clients Are Saying:

"Claire did a great job helping me sell our Livermore home! She was always there to help with getting the house ready and looking great to hit the market! She was very helpful and a pleasure to work with."
-2021 Seller

"Claire Meager is an amazing real estate agent. She fulfilled all of our real estate needs. She's very knowledgeable, professional, caring, flexible, and takes the time to understand specific needs and wants in a property. This is our third time hiring Claire as our agent."
-Repeat Client



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PLEASANTON**

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OFFERED AT \$4,195,000

MONTAGE



**118 SELBY LANE #6,
LIVERMORE**

3 BEDS | 3.5 BATHS
1,548 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE
OFFERED AT \$889,000

COUNTRY FAIR II



**6191 VIA DE LOS CERROS,
PLEASANTON**

5 BEDS | 3 BATHS
2,311 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE
JUST SOLD FOR \$2,250,000
REPRESENTED BUYERS

BIRDLAND



**2550 SANDERLING DRIVE,
PLEASANTON**

3 BEDS | 2.5 BATHS
1,920 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE
SOLD FOR \$2,100,000
REPRESENTED BUYERS

STONERIDGE



**4905 HILLCREST WAY,
PLEASANTON**

4 BEDS | 3 BATHS
2,759 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE
SOLD FOR \$2,450,000
REPRESENTED BUYERS

PLEASANTON VALLEY



**1546 RIDGEWOOD ROAD,
PLEASANTON**

4 BEDS | 2 BATHS
1,790 SQ. FT. OF LIVING SPACE
SOLD FOR \$1,460,000
REPRESENTED BUYERS

This is not intended as a solicitation if your property is currently listed with another broker. The above information, is based on data received from public sources or third parties and has not been independently verified by the broker, Keller Williams Tri-Valley Realty. If important to readers, readers are advised to verify information to their own satisfaction.



Open House
Sat & Sun
1-4pm

Pleasanton

1536 Maple Leaf Drive

\$2,379,000 | 4 bedrooms | 3 full bathrooms

In the highly desirable Charter Oaks neighborhood, 4 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, (one bedroom and full bathroom downstairs), large bonus room, fully updated with wood floors throughout, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, updated bathrooms and owned solar. Backyard pergola for relaxing in the shade.



Open House
Sat & Sun
1-4pm

Dublin

11323 Bloomington Way

\$1,675,000 | 4 bedrooms | 2.5 bathrooms

Located at the top of the west Dublin Hills with beautiful hillside views, this tastefully updated 4 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home has wood floors throughout, fresh paint, updated kitchen, bathrooms and wet bar with granite counter tops, freshly painted cabinets and stainless steel appliances. Backyard features Trex decking, a large lot with a private hot tub solarium, RV or boat storage and work room.



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EXPERIENCE  EXCELLENCE

Newest Member To Venema Homes



Join us in welcoming Brenda Meckenstock to the Venema Homes Real Estate Team! Having lived in Pleasanton since 2013 and currently living in Ruby Hill, she's a local luxury expert. Raising her two daughters in the Pleasanton School System with them attending Amador High School, and volunteering as a Team Mom for her Cheer Team, Brenda loves living in Pleasanton and contributing to the betterment of the city. Brenda and her husband are members of The Club at Ruby Hill and she's Co-Captain of her Bocce Team. She also enjoys playing golf and wine tasting, previously working as a Wine Ambassador at Rubino Estates Winery and will be joining Dante Robere Winery in the near future. In addition, Brenda loves walking and hiking throughout the area including Livermore Valley.

With 35 years of experience in Commercial Real Estate Brenda brings a unique expertise and extensive knowledge to her roll on the team. Brenda not only has an understanding of the Real Estate business but also a passion for her community, making her an invaluable asset to the team.

Reach out to Brenda directly at (408) 348-2583.

Join Us For An Open House!



3557 Olympic Court, Pleasanton
Join Us! Friday 10am-1pm & Saturday/Sunday 1-4pm



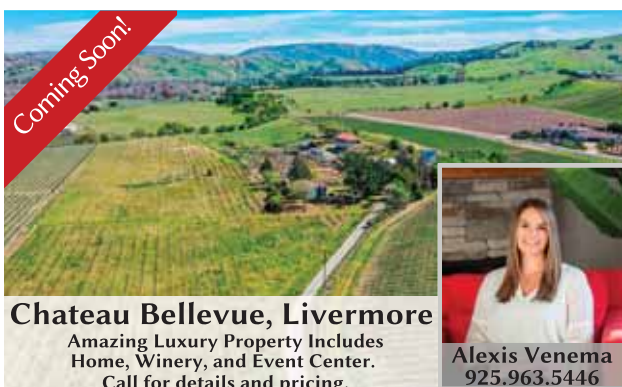
Michelle Kroger
925.785.3134



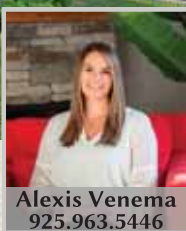
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Alexis Venema
925.963.5446



Chateau Bellevue, Livermore
Amazing Luxury Property Includes Home, Winery, and Event Center. Call for details and pricing.



Alexis Venema
925.963.5446



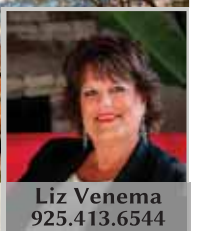
Piccadilly, Pleasanton
Call for details and pricing!



Liz Venema
925.413.6544



550 Montori Court, Ruby Hill
Call for details and pricing!



Liz Venema
925.413.6544



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